

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being submitted *via* the USPTO EFS Filing System on the date shown below to **Mail Stop Amendment**, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date: January 15, 2007/Christine R. Sustar/
Christine R. Sustar**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent application of:

Applicants: Eric D. Brill, *et al.*

Examiner: Paul Kim

Serial No: 10/820,947

Art Unit: 2161

Filing Date: April 8, 2004

Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS THAT RANK SEARCH RESULTS

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT DATED DECEMBER 15, 2006

Dear Sir:

This Reply is in response to the Restriction Requirement mailed on December 15, 2006 in connection with the above-identified patent application.

The Examiner requires restriction to one of the following groups:

Embodiment 1: A ranking system that ranks randomly ordered search results with searches over collections of digital artifacts (Figure 1).

Embodiment 2: An alternative ranking system that employs relevance functions to rank search results (Figures 2 and 6).

Embodiment 3: An alternative ranking system that utilizes thresholding to facilitate returning ranked search results (Figure 3).

Embodiment 4: A searching system that ranks returned results based on relevance (Figure 4).

Embodiment 5: An alternative searching system that ranks returned results based on relevance (Figure 5).

Applicants' representative hereby elects with traverse Embodiment 1 for further prosecution on the merits. At least claims 1-16 read on this species.

Should there be any questions regarding this paper, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063 [MSFTP594US].

Respectfully submitted,

AMIN, TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP

/Himanshu S. Amin/

Himanshu S. Amin

Reg. No. 40,894

AMIN, TUROCY & CALVIN, LLP
24TH Floor, National City Center
1900 E. 9TH Street
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
Telephone (216) 696-8730
Facsimile (216) 696-8731